

Dear FCC:

This is in regard to Proceeding RM-11828, a request by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to expand HF privileges for Technician class licenses.

I think it would be a mistake to grant the request. There is a reason that HF operations require further study beyond the rudimentary knowledge obtained with a Technician class license, and much of that has to do with going from a local transmitting environment, to one that can span the globe. There is little room for making a technical error, which could lead to considerable wide-scale interference.

As it is, the Technician class does have HF privileges, and phone on 10-meters is an ideal band to gain experience and entry into HF operation.

Further, I do not think this will accomplish what the ARRL is hoping---which is to increase interest in amateur radio in HF operations. What is impeding HF operations is the problems of CC&Rs from coast-to-coast prohibiting ham radio antennas without any intervention by the FCC on behalf of the amateur community. Should the FCC order reasonable accommodation (with very specific examples) of amateur HF operation in CC&R restricted areas, it will greatly accelerate the interest in amateur radio operators seeking higher class licensing and in HF use.

The HF bands are underutilized because no one wants to take the risk of a lawsuit over CC&R issues within their community. Without proper HF antennas, there is no incentive to even try HF.

Congress has clearly passed bills addressing the HF CC&R issues for amateur radio by overwhelming ratification. It would be so with the Senate as well, save for one Senator that is tied to the Florida Realtors that kills the bill in committee on each go around. He simply is protecting his friends.

The FCC has had no qualms about acting on CC&R restrictions on behalf of broadcast and satellite television services, but has not shown the same respect to amateur radio. This is what needs to be corrected, not a change in privileges for Technician class operators.

Sincerely,

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